GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2959
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2000
PATENT OF PIEROLIV DRUG
MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research through its drug research organisation, has developed a drug known as pieroliv for protection of liver in human body;

(b) if so, whether a New York ? based company had already patented it;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to bring this matter before the international forum; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be placed before the international court?

Answer

MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) Yes sir. The Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow of CSIR has developed a drug named `Picroliv` derived from the plant `Picrorhiza kurrooa` for protection of liver. Phase II clinical trials of Picroliv have been completed and permission for conducting phase III clinical trials is awaited from the Drug Controller of India.

(b) CDRI was granted a US patent in 1992 for `a process for the preparation and composition of a fraction containing Picrocide?I and kutkoside which are the constituents of Picroliv. No New York based company had already patented the use of `Picrorhiza kurrooa` for protection of liver in human body.`

(c)&(d): Do not arise.